

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-27 (cancelled)

Claim 28 (previously presented): A purified analog of a T cell-dependent immunogen implicated in an antibody-mediated pathology, said analog comprising an epitope that binds specifically to an antibody to which the immunogen binds specifically, wherein the analog lacks T cell epitopes capable of activating T cells in an individual having the antibody-mediated pathology, and wherein the analog is a polypeptide.

Claim 29 (previously presented): The analog of claim 28, further comprising a functional group for coupling to a carrier.

Claim 30 (cancelled)

Claim 31 (previously presented): A composition comprising the analog of claim 28 and a buffer.

Claim 32 (previously presented): A complex comprising the analog of claim 28 bound to an antibody to which the immunogen binds specifically.

Claim 33 (withdrawn): A method of identifying a polypeptide analog of a T cell-dependent immunogen comprising the steps of:

(a) screening a panel or library of candidate polypeptides for the presence of one or more B cell epitope(s) that specifically binds to antibodies to which the immunogen binds specifically;

(b) screening said candidate polypeptides identified in step (a) for candidate polypeptides lacking T cell epitope(s); and

(c) selecting a polypeptide analog from said candidate polypeptides that bind to the antibodies of step (a), but that do not contain T cell epitope(s) as determined by step (b).

Claim 34 (withdrawn): A method of making a polypeptide analog of a T cell-dependent immunogen comprising the step of removing T cell epitope(s) from a polypeptide comprising an epitope that binds specifically to antibodies to which the immunogen binds specifically.

Claim 35 (withdrawn): The method of claim 34, wherein the T cell epitope(s) is removed by altering the T cell epitope(s).

Claim 36 (withdrawn): The method of claim 34, wherein the T cell epitope(s) is removed by deleting the T cell epitope(s).

Claim 37 (withdrawn): A method of making a polypeptide analog of a T cell-dependent immunogen comprising the steps of

(a) synthesizing the polypeptide analog, whereby the polypeptide analog comprises an epitope that binds specifically to antibodies to which the immunogen binds specifically, wherein the analog lacks T cell epitopes capable of activating T cells in an individual; and

(b) purifying the analog.

Claim 38 (currently amended): A purified analog of a T cell-dependent immunogen implicated in an antibody-mediated pathology, said analog comprising an epitope that binds specifically to an antibody to which the immunogen binds specifically[,] in an individual having the antibody-mediated pathology, wherein the analog has a T cell stimulation index below about 2-3 above background, [in an individual having the antibody-mediated pathology,] and wherein the analog is a polypeptide.

Claim 39 (currently amended): The analog of claim 38, wherein the analog has a T cell stimulation index below about 1-2 above background.

Claim 40 (previously presented): The analog of claim 38, further comprising a functional group for coupling to a carrier.

Claim 41 (cancelled)

Claim 42 (previously presented): A composition comprising the analog of claim 38 and a buffer.

Claim 43 (previously presented): A complex comprising the analog of claim 38 bound to an antibody to which the immunogen binds specifically.

Claim 44 (new): The analog of claim 28, wherein the immunogen is an external immunogen.

Claim 45 (new): The analog of claim 44, wherein the external immunogen is a biological drug, allergen or a D immunogen associated with Rh hemolytic disease.

Claim 46 (new): The analog of claim 28, wherein the immunogen is a self-immunogen.

Claim 47 (new): The analog of claim 46, wherein the self-immunogen is that associated with thyroiditis, diabetes, stroke, male infertility, myasthenia gravis, or rheumatic fever.